

**DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS**

**AMENDMENT DATE:** March 29, 2007  
**POSITION:** Oppose

**BILL NUMBER:** SB 312  
**AUTHOR:** C. Kehoe

**BILL SUMMARY: Public Utilities: Commission: Access to Filings**

This bill would require the California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to make accessible on its Internet website as of December 31, 2009, all documents, testimony, or other materials filed with the commission in any rate setting and quasi-legislative proceedings.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

The fiscal impact to the PUC of complying with this bill is estimated to be \$293,000 special fund, with on-going costs of about \$97,500 a year. The PUC anticipates they would need one Staff Information Systems Analyst.

**COMMENTS**

Finance opposes this bill because it would result in costs not reflected in the Governor's budget.

The majority of the costs created by this bill would be one-time costs associated with hardware and software to support the expanded publication of documents on the PUC's website (\$195,500). There would be an annual Oracle license required of \$3,300 per year. The personnel costs would be \$94,159 per year.

The PUC is currently working towards online access to services and documents. AB 1182 (Chapter 372, 2005) requires the PUC to examine the feasibility of receiving Advice Letters electronically and reduce paper documents received. The Statewide Information Technology Plan's goal 1 compels state agencies to make services more accessible to citizens and state clients, and to improve customer service through technology solutions. The Plan identifies as a priority the "further development of Internet and technology-based channels for delivery of state information and services for the convenience of the public. This bill responds to the Plan's policy priority and, were it not for the costs created, Finance would likely not oppose the bill.

Code/Department Agency or Revenue Type	SO	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)							
	LA	(Dollars in Thousands)							
	CO	PROP							Fund
	RV	98	FC	2006-2007	FC	2007-2008	FC	2008-2009	Code
8660/PUC	SO	No	C	\$0	C	\$293	C	\$100	0462
<u>Fund Code</u>	<u>Title</u>								
0462	Publ Utilities Comm Utilities Reimb Acct								

Analyst/Principal (0621) D. Harper	Date	Program Budget Manager Karen Finn	Date
Department Deputy Director		Date	

Governor's Office:	By:	Date:	Position Approved _____
			Position Disapproved _____

**BILL ANALYSIS** Form DF-43 (Rev 03/95 Buff)